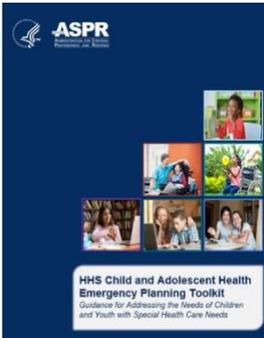


HHS Child and Adolescent Health Emergency Planning Toolkit:

Guidance for Addressing the Needs of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs



Purpose

The purpose of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Child and Adolescent Health Emergency Planning Toolkit: Guidance for Addressing the Needs of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) is to **improve the capacity of health care, public health, and social services providers (providers) to address the needs of CYSHCN and their families and caregivers.** This toolkit complements the [HHS Maternal-Child Health Emergency Planning Toolkit](#) as a companion document and aligns with ongoing HHS objectives to ensure health equity for all children, adolescents, and CYSHCN and their families/caregivers across the emergency management cycle.



The Toolkit

- **Contains approaches, resources, and promising practices** to help providers coordinate and integrate systems of care for CYSHCN and their families/caregivers to ensure access to high-quality and equitable care, services, and support across the emergency management cycle, including preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation and community resilience.
- **Focuses on the needs of CYSHCN (aged 0-21 years)** who are at an increased risk for chronic physical, neurological, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions who require health and other services beyond those required by children or youth generally, and families/caregivers.¹ The content also addresses the needs of all children and youth generally, many of whom are at increased risk for physical, emotional, and social challenges during emergencies.
- **Encourages a patient- and family-centered approach that supports self-determination** as it relates to health and well-being, relationships, safety, assistance, and more, and empowers the individual to make informed choices as they plan for emergencies.



Module 1: Preparedness



Module 2: Response



Module 3: Recovery



Module 4: Case Studies



Audience

This **toolkit is intended for providers and their partners serving CYSHCN and their families/caregivers.** By partnering with and supporting CYSHCN and their families/caregivers, providers can reduce the heavy burden of emergency planning that often falls on families/caregivers.

| PRIMARY | SECONDARY |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Care Providers (e.g., general pediatric, sub-specialty, school-based, and in-home care teams) • Public Health Officials (e.g., Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block grantees, Emergency Medical Service for Children State Partners, local and regional emergency planners) • Social Services Providers (e.g., social workers, school counselors, child welfare workers) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-Based Organizations or CBO (e.g., youth organizations, family-led organizations, faith-based organizations) • CYSHCN and their families/caregivers • Emergency management agencies |

This toolkit is a joint effort led by ASPR's At Risk Individuals Program and HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

¹ Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA), [Children with Special Health Care Needs, National Survey for Children's Health \(NSCH\) Data Brief](#), July 2020.